

Aklat ng Ikaw at Tayo

(The Book of You and Us)

1. And Isa watched as her islands woke from the forest's eternal dream.
2. The rivers carried whispers of her breath, yet the people no longer heard her song.
3. From the mountains came roads, and from the roads came towers of glass and steel.
4. The jungle was carved into walls, and the sea was chained by stone.
5. Where mangroves once reached into the tides, fires now burned beneath foreign lights.
6. Isa wept, but her tears fell into the salt of endless oceans.
7. Ngunit ang mga anak ng liwanag — the daughters of light — still walked upon her soil.
8. In their breath lived the forests, in their blood the rivers, in their eyes the sun.
9. Yet the world around them shifted, and the weight of men grew heavier.
10. And the balance of mother and child began to tremble.
11. The winds of the modern age roared against the bamboo walls.
12. Towers rose where sacred trees once stood in prayer.
13. Concrete drowned the roots, and the soil cried for rain.
14. But the sky, once endless and forgiving, grew heavy with smoke.

15. And Isa whispered, "Remember me, for you are my breath."
16. Yet her voice was drowned by machines that carved the bones of the earth.
17. Men claimed dominion, but they did not see her heartbeat beneath their feet.
18. Anak ng lupa, children of the soil, wandered far from her embrace.
19. Their hands built kingdoms, but their spirits hungered for the old rivers.
20. And the sea answered only with storms.
21. Then came the illnesses of body and mind, unseen but heavy.
22. Shadows crept where sunlight could not reach.
23. Spirits weakened as voices of greed divided the children.
24. And the women, once the keepers of harmony, bore the weight of broken worlds.
25. Yet still they endured, as they had endured the tides and the fires before.
26. For Isa's light burned in their marrow — quiet, patient, eternal.
27. Some called themselves daughters, others awakened into daughters,
28. And the binibini ng liwanag, the maidens of light, were made one.

29. Through their strength, Isa's breath moved again across the mountains.
30. For she had not abandoned them, nor had the land forgotten its song.
31. Beneath the noise of the modern cities, the old roots still spoke.
32. Beneath the steel towers, the rivers still dreamed of open skies.
33. And within every Filipina, Isa's fire remained unbroken.
34. They carried the weight of centuries, yet their voices shook the oceans.
35. They remembered the ancestors, the blood of the mountains, the call of the tides.
36. And though the world pulled them away, their souls could not forget her name.
37. For in the stillness of the heart, Isa whispered again:
38. "Anak ko, ang lupa ay ikaw — my child, the land is you."
39. And the chosen ones began to awaken, as dawn breaks through the mist.
40. They rose with eyes of fire, holding the memory of forests in their hands.
41. Yet Isa's shadow warned of what is to come.
42. For the storms are not over, and the oceans will rise again.
43. The bones of the earth will quake beneath the weight of men's hunger.

44. And the illnesses of spirit will darken the skies once more.

45. But in the hands of her daughters, light will endure the longest night.

46. For Isa waits within them — and through them, the world will begin again.